

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1089

By Harrison

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Penny Henderson on her selection as 2010 Teacher of the Year for McPheeter's Bend Elementary School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those outstanding educators who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Penny Henderson is one such estimable educator who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Penny Henderson has recently been selected 2010 Teacher of the Year for McPheeter's Bend Elementary School by Hawkins County Schools, an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher, as it recognizes the positive influence she has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, along with other distinguished Hawkins County teachers, Ms. Henderson was recently honored at the Hawkins County School System's Teacher of the Year Banquet; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Henderson holds a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from East Tennessee State University (ETSU), and she has completed numerous additional graduate courses as well; and

WHEREAS, she began her distinguished career in education at Carter's Valley Elementary School in 1984 as an interim teacher, and for the past sixteen years she has offered her singular skills and expertise to the students of McPheeter's Bend Elementary while teaching kindergarten, first grade, second grade, third grade, and currently fifth grade; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Henderson also dearly loves her students, and she has immersed herself in service to her students and others not only through classroom instruction, but also through her work with Oak Grove Baptist Church and Community Clothes Closet; she has also served for several years as a St. Jude's Coordinator for McPheeter's Bend Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Henderson is an innovative and inspiring leader in education, as evidenced by her service as Title I Coordinator, Spelling Bee Coordinator, and as a mentor teacher, as well as serving on the School Improvement Plan Leadership Committee, Math Pacing Guide Committee, and SACS Hospitality Committee; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Henderson is a member of many esteemed educational organizations, including the National Education Association (NEA), the Tennessee Education Association (TEA), the Hawkins County Education Association (HCEA), and she is also a member of the Upper East Tennessee Council of Teachers of Mathematics; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, she was honored with the Principal's Recognition for 100% math proficiency on the 2008-2009 TCAP, was selected to participate in the Eastman Mathlete Summer Workshop in 2009, and was recognized in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers* in 2005-2006; and

WHEREAS, Penny Henderson has earned the respect and admiration of her community through her meritorious service and her dedication to her students while exuding a tireless enthusiasm and a willingness to try new and innovative methods in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, Penny Henderson is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, Penny Henderson epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be recognized on this special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that that we honor and congratulate Penny Henderson on her selection as 2010 Teacher of the Year for McPheeter's Bend Elementary School, commend her exceptional

service to the children of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.